



(43) International Publication Date
2 October 2003 (02.10.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/080627 A1

- (51) **International Patent Classification⁷:** C07F 5/02,
A61N 5/06, A61K 31/69
- (21) **International Application Number:** PCT/EP03/03174
- (22) **International Filing Date:** 24 March 2003 (24.03.2003)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**
S02/0209 22 March 2002 (22.03.2002) IE
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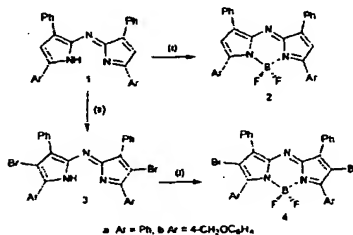
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- (81) **Designated States (national):** AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MI, NZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) **Designated States (regional):** ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,

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- (54) Title:** COMPOUNDS USEFUL AS PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPEUTIC AGENTS

Reaction Scheme



- (i) $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$, DIEA, CH_2Cl_2 , rt, 16 h;
(iii) Br_2 , toluene, rt, 2 h.

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to compounds of the formula (II) or a salt, metal complex or hydrate or other solvate thereof, wherein: M is a chelating agent; R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of: H; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, cyclic, moiety; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, heterocyclic moiety; or a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain alkyl or acyl moiety; and R² and R⁵ may also be independently a heavy atom or a water-solubilizing group. The present invention also relates to use of these compounds in the therapy *in vivo* or *in vitro* of a photosensitive target biological cell by irradiation, as well as methods of treating a photosensitive target biological cell *in vivo* or *in vitro*. Finally, the present invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions, comprising these compounds, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

